

M1575
Friday, April 25, 1969
New York City
Group IV

Mr. Nyland: We just about missed the fire engine, huh? Even if I didn't like that—I had to play it very loud—it wouldn't have mattered very much.

It's wonderful sometimes to have ordinary life intrude; particularly on certain days when you don't want it to intrude, and then you ask, "Why does God send it to me now." Sometimes you think that you are specially chosen by God to have more suffering than someone else. Of course, I don't believe it's true. I think that each person made up the way he is; and, of course, being born at a certain time and under the influence of whatever is his Zodiac sign and the rising sign and the Moon and of course the placement of all the different planets, it makes a certain configuration of a Man, each person dependent on whatever his horoscope will tell him.

But Mother Nature evens it up. Because as one goes through a year the Sun—or the Earth, if you like—goes through certain signs of the Zodiac, of which all signs are occupied by all kinds of people being born at different times; and that evening-up process is that each person has his chance, with the configuration he happens to be, always to be affected by all the Zodiac signs as they are possible with Mother Nature, or in our solar system. And it is this constant changing as the Sun moves from Aries to Taurus, etc., that then each person being born under a certain sign and also with his rising sign, is then affected by a variety of different conditions of Earth as a result of the place of the Earth in relation to the Sun. And the evening-up process simply means that regardless of what any kind of a person happens to be as his own configuration is affected and is exposed to certain conditions over the whole year, which is similar for each person in time being affected by the conditions as they are and whatever it may be that the Sun has in store for that, they are *all* under that kind of an influence every once in a while, and when a year is over then it starts again. And the idea of a birthday is that one starts again with all the knowledge of

the previous year, and of course each person has a birthday sometime during the year. As long as he is on Earth he has to have a birthday, and therefore this is true for everybody ... and each person, then, during the coming year after his birthday will go through the same kind of repetition of what he already had before, and then it is up to the person to find out what he then can learn, judging by his experience of the previous year.

If I look at a birthday in that way, there is an opportunity then to see what has been the effects during a year, dependent on the different astrological conditions which happen. And you can divide it into seasons and months; or you can go by the signs of the Zodiac from the 20th or 21st of each month until the next; or you can regulate it in accordance with whatever the Moon happened to be at a certain time in a little quicker rotation of one month or 28 days and maybe you can have an idea about the planets which move a little slower, but at the same time there is a whole year that has gone by, what has the year brought. And I say it is *not* something that is so extremely different from someone else. Because from the standpoint of Earth, we are all alike. That is, we on Earth are all alike, from the standpoint of the Sun looking at the creatures on Earth, we are all unconscious slugs.

There are certain times—and we go through them at the present—in which the Earth as a whole is subject to disturbing conditions. It has been coming already for some time, it will last for some time. We are not through with it. Whatever the reasons are of the growing effects, or something that is being born; in the universe as a whole I wouldn't say that, but in our solar system that there are influences on Earth which now affect everybody, it is then up to each person to see what the effect is on himself to the extent that he understands himself for whatever he is, and that then he has to take measures.

When one has gone through a year in which you have a totality of all kinds of experience ... experiences of the twelve signs of the Zodiac in which you have been affected by different conditions during that year, it should have added a great deal to your knowledge of what you are. And although the starting point may be Taurus and it may be this day like it is for Rhoda, it all comes to us in exactly the same way—only a little later or a little sooner—and the total effect of the whole year is really quite similar. But when the Earth under experiencing like, at the present time such conditions which are disturbing for the Earth itself and which give rise to all kinds of conditions which we now know about and which we sometimes don't like; and sometimes we say the people have 'gone crazy' and there is such degrading of the level where we live, such

utter nonsense that even can be published and talked about and even given value; so that the totality in which we live at the present time is at such a low level that we are even worse than animals. Because we can read, and we read crap. And we get all kinds of junk on the TV and all kinds of publications, including pornography; a low level of that what is being published of the different things that should never be published and should belong to one's private life; all the different news items that one wants to get in order to give excitement to the readers who read, or pictures for those who cannot read.

Whatever it is that we go through now and what we experience—that is of course of much more value for us as a whole. And particularly when you say “Now it's a birthday for me, and for me a year is ahead and what will happen in this year” judging by what has come and what will go by extrapolation even a little further down, and “What will I now do regarding all of that.” That's what birthdays are for: To see what has been the effect of the year past on you; and taking in whatever the condition of the year was and to what extent even it has deteriorated, or whatever it is that you have experienced during that year which were at some times very difficult and not ... so that perhaps from that kind of a knowledge you may be able to avoid certain experiences which you don't want to repeat again.

If one looks at a birthday as a day in which everything of the past is connected and has become One; as if it is the totality of the Earth and as if, then, one sees that what is oneself a replica of the solar system and the Earth as One. And the body and the veneration at the present time and sometimes glorification of the body which takes place—and particularly in relation to sex—it is terrible what is being done to us. Because we are affected, we are under that influence and we are lowering our level as long as we remain asleep. Because you are constantly under the influence of that kind of a current. That's why we talk about Work: Because it is so absolutely essential to understand that if you don't ... and if you don't wish to know about it and if you don't even want to practice anything, you will go down—down the drain, there is no doubt about that.

Where it will end—in a certain cataclysm or perhaps earthquake, or destruction or whatever is predicted—I do not know, and I really don't care. It is exactly *that*—where the emphasis has been in the past as far as Mother Mature is concerned—because She is the Earth and you cannot blame Her, but we are not of this Earth. You must make that distinction. We are born *on* this Earth, we are subject to it, and thank God there is something in us that belongs to

something else, otherwise we would never be called ‘children of God.’ And, what it is in us that can actually survive ... or that can be of a higher level than where we now are forced to live because of the conditions all around us; and everything that is being published and that is shouted from the housetops everywhere, now it is necessary more than ever to Work on yourself, really get free as much as you can in order to build something within you that can withstand all these different onslaughts on you; so that there is something that is a solidity within you, and that solidity being of an essential quality, need not be affected by all the different, surface influences.

That is why I talked the other day about the necessity of being not wishy-washy about anything that has to do with Work. Either it is something that becomes serious for you and you see it as a necessity... Because if you don’t, you will go under. There is no question about that. Because when you die in your sleep, you will not even know why you died. When you die when you try to be Awake, at least you will be able to see where you might go; because there is a chance, then, that I will have a certain form of Consciousness and this is to some extent the preparation ... regardless of whatever it is, this is particularly the kind of thing we think about when one has a birthday. Because in the birthday there is a chance I start a new year, it is as if at that time I am born again; because that’s my birthday and every time a year was added, each time on the birthday I started again; because I was born on that day, at that hour somewhere in some surrounding, and this body was given to me to be used for the purpose of reminding myself of Work.

There is no other reason for it. You can say you are ‘food for the Moon,’ and who wants it. The Moon split off, the Moon really didn’t belong to Earth anymore. For some reason, and we call it the ‘cataclysm,’ something was split off—Why. Because the Earth was too heavy, or the Earth needed balance? Or was it a form that had to grow away from Earth, was something that was needed so that the Moon in its turn could take care of that what is the other part split off at the same time? What is with us. What are we. At what time was there a Transapalnian Perturbation for ourselves. When was our Moon formed, and what is now recognized as something separate from us *as* our manifestations of the surface are separate from that which is essential. And then we can feed that what is manifestation and not feed what is left for Earth, poor Earth will die when we don’t feed our essence, when we don’t feed that what is within ourselves as a living matter put in a form in some way or other, for some reason or other.

If we don’t start to understand that that what is within is our own Anulios, which is *not* the

manifestation any longer but which has in it the capacity and the ability to grow further, *that* is the life that one wishes to set free. That is the reason why one looks at the Moon: And that when it is now the Moon as one's manifestations, and gradually a Conscious Man will be able to look through the Moon and not be bothered anymore by the form, and when he sees through the Moon he sees the Anulios on the other side. So that Man need not, when he grows, go in a little spaceship and take photographs of the other side. He will know what his world is like, he has a chance to find out what it is.

When he wants to Work he has a chance for himself to place all the configurations of himself—his Earth his body, the planets his emotions, his Moon his manifestations, his Anulios his essential essence. That what could become his Consciousness, *that* will give him the light; that what could become his Conscience, *that* will give him the force; that will give him the contact with the possibility of growing finally away from Earth, to leave it, to grow through the planets to the Sun. And then who knows what, but in any event you won't have to be affected all the time by the pestiferous influences of the Earth.

That is why a birthday is worth it. Because I now start with a new scratch, a new attitude, a new something as if born. And in birth, I mentioned it the other day: The Self with a capital 'S' is that what I am essentially essence ... even sometimes when it is so hard to find I want the quintessence of my essence, and when I once know that, on my birthday I treat it tenderly and I thank God for that gift. Because now in this kind of a rebirth—repeating all the time the possibility of how was I born free and how did I become bound—that, now, again and again I can make up my mind and I wish that my heart will join in the wish to actually become free, maybe *this* year.

Who knows what miracles can take place. Who knows how all of a sudden there is that kind of a breakthrough; a breakthrough through the Moon, through Anulios the realization of that what the reality of my life is and to what extent I am capable of handling it, of treating it correctly, of being towards it tenderly, loving.

I say these things for Rhoda. We are engaged in Work already for some time. There are some people who have been in this a long time, they know how difficult Work is. They know how constantly their old Adam comes to the foreground, how difficult it is to understand, even, one's mechanicality; and how necessary it is to remain loyal to the ideas, hoping and wishing and not to give up, and to stay with it. Because I feel such people who leave, I feel so sorry for

them. They miss their chance. I'm sorry for them. Not for me. For one person who leaves there will be, in time ten others. I don't mind that—each person then becomes a unit—but for each person who I happen to know, I feel sorry.

And then I contrast such people who go their own little way and perhaps find something I hope enjoyable, I contrast that with a person who was there from the very beginning; years and years already; because Rhoda and Wesley were the oldest people in the Group when I started it—how long: twenty years ago I think, whatever it was I've forgotten. And that is why I want all of you, *all* of you to know why I love Rhoda. She is loyal, absolutely loyal, and I wish you would know that. I wish you would remember. I wish you would know that I know her and I feel, and for that reason I wish you would drink to her future as another year in which perhaps all the different experiences of the past can be understood, and that she will know what to do with that; and not to waiver and not to have doubts but to continue, to continue regardless of whatever difficulties may be put in her way. Whatever that karma is, she will find it; and then when she finds it, she will eat it. Because, that is courage. She has that because she wishes and she knows ... and she understands and she knows what is meant by Work: To try to find God within oneself.

Here, darling, to another year. [Toast]

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